



National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration  
**John C. Stennis Space Center**  
Stennis Space Center, MS  
39529-6000

**SPD 8715.1 Rev. A**  
**September 2008**

## **COMPLIANCE IS MANDATORY**

### **John C. Stennis Space Center Operational Readiness Program**

Stennis Policy Directive	SPD 8715.1	Rev A
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Rev.</i>
	Effective Date: September 30, 2008	
	Expiration Date: September 30, 2013	
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Responsible Office: QA00/ Safety and Mission Assurance (S&MA)		
SUBJECT: SSC Operational Readiness Program		

## Document History Log

Status/Change/ Revision	Change Date	Originator/Phone	Description
Basic	10/27/00	Clifton Arnold/x1685	Replaces SPD 1700.4B.
A	8/8/2008	Dan Brady /x8-1187	Complete review and revision

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## 1. POLICY

- a. This SPD establishes the policy for conducting an Operational Readiness Assessment (ORA) of facilities, operations, or equipment including Special Test Equipment (STE) to assure initial and continued safe operations. This SPD also establishes the requirement for a Technical Review Process Team to investigate and recommend resolutions for technical issues uncovered during ORAs.
- b. Modifications or changes to facilities, equipment, and operations which increase the risk of injury to personnel and/or may result in severe property damage shall be reviewed, and inspected for impacts to successful operations. All potentially hazardous situations will be identified and mitigated to the lowest level prior to initiation of operations of the complete system.
- c. ORA reviews and inspections shall be performed either by an Operational Readiness Inspection Committee (ORIC), a Safety Review Team (SRT) or an Independent Investigator (II).
- d. ORICs, SRTs, or IIs shall verify the operational readiness of the facility and ensure that appropriate safety measures and risk reductions have been completed.
- e. An Operational Readiness Assessment Board (ORAB) shall review and evaluate ORIC activities and approve/certify the readiness of facilities, equipment, and operations for first operational use at SSC.
- f. Chairpersons and members of the ORIC, SRT, and IIs shall be selected, to the extent possible, from organizations without a vested interest in the activity for which the review is being conducted.
- g. A Technical Review Process Team (TRPT) shall be formed to investigate and resolve specific technical issues that are uncovered in ORAs and not addressed by one of the above committees, teams, or individuals. Individuals assigned to the TRPTs will be chosen from those available and technically competent in the issues being investigated by the directors and managers who have cognizance over the projects / facilities / processes under review.

## 2. APPLICABILITY

- a. This directive applies to NASA/SSC personnel.
- b. This directive applies to contractors to the extent specified by their respective contracts.

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c. This Policy Directive governs all operations under management responsibility of Stennis Space Center (SSC) performed at SSC, some other location as directed by SSC, performed by NASA, or NASA contractor employees.

d. This Policy Directive applies to new construction, modification of existing facilities, operations, and equipment in support of programs where the potential for mishaps exist. Such mishaps may be associated with improper operation that might cause personal injury, death, or where there is a high risk of serious damage to equipment, test articles, buildings, or adjoining areas. Where contractors do not have such programs, this Policy Directive and support procedural guidelines shall be used as a guide in establishing such programs.

### 3. AUTHORITY

- a. NPR 1400.1, *NASA Directives System Procedural Requirements*.
- b. NPR 7120.5, *NASA Program and Project Management Processes and Requirements*.
- c. NPR 7120.5, *NASA Space Flight Program and Project Management Requirements*.
- d. NPR 7123.1, *NASA Systems Engineering Processes and Requirements*.
- e. NPR 8715.3, *NASA General Safety Program Requirements*.
- f. NPR 8820.2, *Facility Project Requirements*.

### 4. APPLICABLE DOCUMENTS

None

### 5. RESPONSIBILITY

- a. The Manager of the Office of Safety and Mission Assurance is responsible for coordinating and monitoring compliance with this directive.
- b. The Manager of the Office of Safety and Mission Assurance (S&MA), the Chief Engineer, and the Director of the appropriate operating Directorate are responsible for conducting reviews, evaluations and certification of SRT and II activities.

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c. The TRPTs are responsible for reporting findings and conclusions of investigations to the ORAB and the Directors and Managers who authorized the formation of the TRPT and determined the scope of the TRPT investigation.

## 6. MEASUREMENT / VERIFICATION

ORAB approvals and certifications of ORAs will be forwarded to the Center Director for review.

## 7. CANCELLATION

SPD 8715.1 dated October 2000

*Signature on file*

Robert D. Cabana  
Director

## DISTRIBUTION

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